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U. S. Department of Agriculture



OFFERMAN
DELPHINIUM GARDENS

4709 W. STEVENS
SEATTLE 6, WASH.

IMPORTANT SHIPPING INFORMATION

Please read before sending your order.

Seed Orders . . . We enclose culture directions to assist you. When seed arrives, place packets in the refrigerator (not freezing compartment), or in some other cool place, until planting time.



All seed orders are prepaid.

Unless otherwise requested, plants will be shipped parcel post. Include 10% for postage, or we ship C.O.D. Special handling on your parcel, add 20 cents extra and parcel will travel as fast as first class mail.

Washington customers please add 3% State Sales Tax.

Named Series of the Pacific Hybrid Strain

SUMMER SKIES . . . What better words can be chosen for this favorite than the crystal clear, unshaded blue of a bright summer's day. The white bee flashes against the lovely, light blue. Flowers up to 3 inches across.

BLUE BIRD . . . The rare and thrilling flash of the blue-bird's wings is caught in this finest medium delphinium blue. There are slight iridescent hues at the floret tips. A very fine white bee. Flowers up to 3 inches across.

BLUE JAY . . . Every Delphinium lover seeks the true blue color, which is so difficult to obtain. The color is a medium to dark blue, with dark contrasting bee. Individual flowers up to 3 inches in diameter.

GALAHAD . . . Always there is a special beauty to a pure white flower. This series is the triumph of the whites with a frosted sheen folding away from the pure white bee. Flowers up to 4 inches across.

PERCIVAL . . . This is the other giant white that merits a place in this group. All is glistening white but the startling black bee. Flowers up to 3½ inches across.

LANCELOT . . . The beautiful flower of this very large Delphinium whispers of the clearest lilac self. Its white bee continues the delicate tones. A rare color in Delphinium. Flowers up to 3 inches across.

GUINEVERE . . . The silken petals are of softest pink-shaded lavender, with good white bee. This is one of the most delicate of the named series. Flowers up to 3½ inches across.

CAMELIARD . . . Now the clearest, truest lavender with exceptionally large flowers. The very double flowers swirl from a white bee. Flowers up to 3½ inches across.

KING ARTHUR . . . Of course, the King must wear the royal purple, with faint glows of royal blue at the base of the florets. The white bee is like a shining shield upon the regal velvet. Flowers up to 3 inches across.

BLACK KNIGHT . . . The darkest violet of all with the black bee intensifying the mysterious depths of each flower. Even the flower stems are darkest green to accentuate the deep tones. Flowers up to 3½ inches across.

ROUND TABLE . . . Here you may have the whole glorious array of all the Pacific Hybrids in new color combinations, always blending into an exciting and beautiful picture. Flowers up to 3½ inches across.

SEEDS

Approximately 200 seeds in each full packet.

1 packet, your choice.....	\$ 2.00	1 half packet	\$1.00
6 packets, your choice.....	10.00	6 half packets.....	5.00
12 packets, your choice.....	17.50	12 half packets.....	9.00

We Carry Trade Packets to Growers and Nurseries

No ½ Packets in Trade

Offerman Delphinium Gardens

Thornton Heath, England

June 24, 1953

At the British Delphinium Society Show in London, I won the Perpetual Challenge Cup with 6 Offerman seedling spikes. This Cup is awarded for spikes suitable for Market or cut flowers, colors and form.

Sincerely yours,

Alfred E. Kidney

NEW DOUBLE PINK AND ROSE SHADES

ASTOLAT SERIES . . . The first group of entirely novel shades in delphinium, which adds a new chapter in American delphinium history. The color variation extends from pale blush through all shades of lilac pink to deep raspberry rose, with large contrasting brown, fawn, yellow and black bees. Individual flowers are quite large, reaching the 3 inch diameter. The growth and form of spikes are of top notch quality. The extremely piquant air of the novel shades catches everyone's eye in the garden.

Price.....Half packet \$2.50 — Full packet \$5.00

Strong-rooted seedling plants in the Astolat Series
\$6.50 per doz.; \$4.00 per ½ doz.

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PRIVAT STRAIN

Privat Strain consists of seeds selected from plants of the above mentioned **ASTOLAT SERIES**—seeds of Silver Queen—and seeds of new crosses, from flowers reaching 4 inches and more across. If you wish this unusual combination in your garden, order early, or you will be disappointed.

Price.....1 packet (200 seeds) — \$3.25

OFFERMAN'S SILVER QUEEN

It has all the opalescent splendor of true Mother of Pearl, shining from the bud through to the shimmering loveliness of the huge double flowers. It brings to one all the soft shades of distant mountains in a summer twilight.

The bee, whatever the intensity of white, or brown, or black, lends an enchantment to each flower. I never have been sure which bee I like best for this flower.

As Silver Queen opens, it is as if a bright moonbeam has come to shine upon each flower, sending the twilight colors into the shadows, leaving only a breath of opalescence in its silvery light.

1 packet (200 seeds).....\$3.00

OFFERMAN'S EXHIBITION STRAIN

The finest mixture from the excellent stock of Offerman Gardens. For the Delphinium grower who enjoys new color combinations and the fun of trying the "unknown" this will be his choice.

1 packet, approx. 250 seeds.....\$2.00

Clumps of the Exhibition Strain \$10.00 per dozen or \$5.50 per half dozen, shipped Express collect.

Toronto, Ont., Canada

Offerman Delphinium Gardens.

Recently I was in Seattle and visited your delphinium gardens. I was especially interested in the plants marked "PRIVAT STRAIN", with tall spikes and huge flowers. The color ranging was magnificent, particularly the new shades of rose, raspberry rose and pink colors, with the gold, black and white bees. I was disappointed in not finding you at home. Please air mail me your catalog.

Mrs. Alfred Janes.

DELPHINIUM PLANTS—F.O.B. SEATTLE

From March to June and September to November we are offering strong-rooted seedling plants in the superb Giant Pacific Hybrid Strain. Transplanted, they will grow rapidly; they will bloom from summer until frost. All the exquisite delphinium colors are included in the plants—deep blue, sky-blue, lavender, pure white, violet purples and pinks shaded lavender, with individual blossoms up to 4 inches across.

FIELD GROWN PLANTS

\$5.00 per dozen

\$3.00 per half dozen

PLANTS OF NAMED VARIETIES

that have already bloomed in our gardens

\$1.50 each or \$15.00 per dozen

Express collect. No order less than three plants

Make your own selection from page 3

Orders of 6 plants or less add 10% postage. Will ship postpaid.



OFFERMAN ADVICE . . .

Each year I receive many letters asking for advice on Delphinium culture. With the hope that a few of my notes may be of help, I will answer some of the most-asked questions.

ABOUT THE SEEDS . . . There are two seasons to start Delphiniums from seed, Spring and August. In parts of the country that have cold winters, the summer sowing should be done between July 15th-August 1st to give the seedlings a better "toe-hold" for winter. The spring planting will bloom in the fall of the same year.

For the soil in flats; contrary to belief, leaf mold is not essential, but sand is VERY IMPORTANT. Lighten the garden soil with sand, thoroughly mixed together. The top layer of the soil should be finely sifted, ready for the seed. To be sure the seed is not buried too deeply, I strongly advise broadcasting the seed and then sifting fine soil over the surface ONLY THE THICKNESS OF A DIME. Press the planted soil down gently . . . not too hard. Water with fine spray and cover seedbed with moist burlap or wet paper. Remove the covering as soon as the seeds come up. Remember too, a shaded seed flat is easier to keep moist and much better for the tiny sprouted seeds than too frequent watering. Good, fresh seed should germinate in 10 days to 2 weeks.

ABOUT TRANSPLANTING . . . When the seedlings are about 1 1/2 to 2 inches high, they will have three true leaves and are ready to be moved. Depending upon the sowing time, they will either go into a coldframe or lathed seed bed in temperate climate for the winter. As soon as the frosts are over and the soil is warming up, transplant in permanent position about two feet apart.

ABOUT FERTILIZER . . . We use "Compost" to all our plants. When planting out our young stock, we prepare the hole by adding this compost, mix it with the soil, and set in the plant. If you are not familiar with the making of compost, drop a line to Organic Gardening, Emmaus, Penna., who will send you literature. Barnyard manures as cow, sheep or horse should be dug a foot deep into the soil; however, always mix lime with manures. If chicken manure is used, spread on top of soil and let the rain do the rest.

ABOUT THE SOIL . . . The looser the soil, the larger the flowers. Delphinium roots are thin and go straight down. This is why the soil under the roots must be loose; and the deeper it is prepared, the better the plant can function. If your soil contains clay, add plenty of leaf mold and sand or compost. In a few years you will find a difference in the soil. Give your plants loose soil; give plenty of water and sunshine and the joys of beautiful delphiniums will be yours.

FOR ADDED PLEASURE OF YOUR FAVORITE FLOWER JOIN THE
AMERICAN DELPHINIUM SOCIETY

Beautiful yearbook containing history of the newest developments in the Delphinium world.

MEMBERSHIP \$3.00 PER YEAR

Write to:

JACK OFFERMAN

Northwestern Vice-President American Delphinium Society
4709 W. Stevens, Seattle 6, Washington

Offerman Delphinium Gardens

Stitzer, Wis., July 28, 1953

I have never seen Delphiniums so beautiful as mine, and they are from seed I purchased from you.

I am encl. another order for seed. Yours truly,

Mrs. Bollunt.



NEW GIANT LONSPURRED COLUMBINE (*AQUILEGIA*) from Holland

HOLLANDIA GIANT . . . Of all the Columbine we have seen this new giant-flowering strain from Holland surpasses them all. The flowers, in a wide range of rich and varied colors are ideal to use in vases, with their long stems and naturally graceful airy arrangement.

LOWDHAM STRAIN . . . Excellent long spurred strain with large flowers. Contains several very attractive colors not found in other mixtures.

Your choice: \$1.50 per packet of 300 seeds; 75c per ½ packet.

PANSY SEED FROM HOLLAND

Here are 2 varieties of the large flowering Pansies, which we are fortunate to be able to offer you:

THE SUPER SWISS GIANT . . . Extra select mixture, specially blended.

MAXIMA . . . Largest flowering strain of Pansy existent in beautiful color variation and of compact growth. The best strain for Market Growers.

Your choice: \$1.50 per packet of 300 seeds; 75c per ½ packet.

PLANTING DIRECTIONS . . . Plant pansy seed any time from March until October in loose soil. Keep seed bed moist and shaded. Transplant the seedlings when large enough to handle in rows about 3 inches apart both ways. When plants have strong root system plant in permanent place. A bed or border of Giant Pansies is indescribably beautiful.



GIANT POLYANTHUS PRIMROSES

This Giant Primrose is not only Spring's Harbinger, but its bright and fragrant giant blooms stay on to welcome Summer, for this Hardy Primrose offers a long season of bloom, and an extensive variety of colors and forms.

TANGO SUPREME . . . Immense ruffled blooms measuring up to 3 inches across. The color range is wide, but the orange shades predominate, tango, ruffled yellow and deep sunset shadings, many with distinct two-tone markings, others with fancy edges. A great prize winner. \$3.00 per packet of 300 seeds, or \$2.00 for 175 seeds.

"PINK AND ROSE SHADES" . . . Enormous frilled blooms measuring up to 3 inches across in lovely shades of soft pink to rose and claret—a great prize winner. \$4.00 per pack of 300 seeds, or \$2.00 for 150 seeds.

ABOVE MENTIONED TWO STRAINS IN ONE MIXTURE. \$3.50 per packet of 300 seeds, or \$1.75 for 150 seeds.

CHOICE PRIMROSE SEED FROM ENGLAND, HOLLAND AND AUSTRALIA'S leading growers, which we believe is the finest mixture in the giant flowering Primroses. \$2.00 per packet of 275 seeds, or \$1.00 for 125 seeds.

AURICULA . . . Monarch Strain. Finest mixture and grown in Holland. \$1.25 per packet of 200 seeds.

CANDELABRA PRIMULA . . . Pink and red shades, grow 2½ feet high. \$1.00 per packet of 200 seeds.

Choice Primrose plants 75c each; \$6.00 per doz; \$3.50 per ½ doz.